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Appl. No. 10/520,318
Amdt. dated March 22, 2007

Reply to Office Action of December 29, 2006
Attorney Docket 17932

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 were pending for examination. Claims 10, 12, 14, 15 and 16 are amended and claims 1-9, 13 and 17-21 are cancelled. No new matter is added. Accordingly, claims 10-12 and 14-16 are currently pending in light of the above amendments to the claims. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested in light of the foregoing remarks.

Indication of Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for indication that claim 13 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant would also like to thank the Examiner for indication that claim 15 would be allowable if amended to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Objection to the Abstract

The Abstract was objected to for allegedly comparing the invention with prior art. The Abstract has been amended to place the Abstract into proper form.

Objection to the Specification

The Specification was objected to because of informalities. Paragraphs [0047] and [0048] have been amended to provide definitions to (T/h) and variable E. The variable theta is defined as the slope of the field to which it relates. Support for this definition can be found, for example, in paragraph [0038] of the Specification.

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Applicants respectfully request removal of the objections to the Specification.

Objection to the Claims

Claims 12, 16 and 18 were objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) for alleged improper form because of multiple claim dependency. Claims 12 and 16 are amended to overcome this objection and claim 18 is cancelled. Support for claims 12 and 16 can be found, for example, in amended paragraph [0054].

Applicants respectfully request removal of the objections to the Claims.

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1-11, 13-15, 17, and 19-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1-9, 13 and 17-21 are cancelled. Claims 10, 14 and 15 have been amended to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. Applicants respectfully request removal of this rejection. Accordingly, allowance of claims 10, 11, 14 and 15 is respectfully requested.

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. §101

Claims 1-9, 20 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 because the invention was allegedly directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claims 1-9, 20 and 21 are cancelled. Applicants respectfully request removal of this rejection.

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Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 2, 10, 11, 14, 17, 19 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,995,895 to Watt.

Claims 1, 2, 17, 19, and 20 are cancelled.

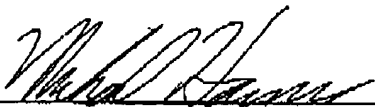
Claim 10 is amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 13 to place claim 10 in condition for allowance. Claims 11 and 14 depend from claim 10 and are allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 10. Accordingly, allowance of claims 10, 11 and 14 is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 10-12 and 14-16 define patentable subject matter. A Notice of Allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

No fee is believed due with this communication. Nevertheless, should the Examiner consider any fees to be payable in conjunction with this or any future communication, authorization is given to direct payment of such fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 14-0780. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it would help expedite matters.

Respectfully submitted,



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